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Filed   : **January 5, 2001**

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A method, comprising:

identifying a user using unique information;

designating a first plurality of files in a computer as being associated with said

user;

responsive to said identifying, using a program to allow said user to make a

change to any of said first plurality of files associated with said user; and

preventing reading contents of said first plurality of files when said user is not

identified.

2. (Original) A method as in claim 1, wherein said preventing comprises

encrypting said files using an encryption value which requires said unique information to

form an encryption key.

3. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 2, wherein said ~~specified~~

<u>unique</u> information includes a user password.

4. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 2, wherein said ~~specified~~

<u>unique</u> information includes a unique number indicative of hardware in the computer

system.

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5.   (Original)   A method as in claim 1, further comprising designating a
second plurality of files on the computer as read only, and storing unencrypted
information in said read only files, but not allowing any changes to said read only files.

6.   (Original)   A method as in claim 5, further comprising establishing a
plurality of special files within said plurality of files, said special files being unencrypted
read/write files, and establishing special security measures for said special files.

7.   (Original)   A method as in claim 6, wherein said security measures
include determining whether a specified program is actually accessing the file, and only
allowing file access by said specified program.

8.   (Original)   A method as in claim 1,further comprising detecting certain
kinds of accesses based on specified security criteria, and maintaining a log of said
accesses including information about a program that made said accesses.

9.   (Original)   A method as in claim 1, wherein said preventing comprises
preventing certain users from obtaining access to said files.

10.   (Previously Presented)   A method, comprising:
storing both encrypted and unencrypted files on a computer;
starting an operating system by reading said unencrypted files, and storing
encrypted information indicating results of computer operations; and

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designating unencrypted files as read only, and encrypted files as read/write files.

11.   Cancelled

12.   (Currently Amended)   A method as in claim 10, further comprising forming encrypted files by requiring a unique information, and using said unique information as part of an encryption and/or decryption operation.

13.   (Currently Amended)   A method as in claim 10, further comprising establishing special files which are read/write files that are not encrypted, and carrying out at least one security measure on said special files.

14.   (Currently Amended)   A computer, comprising:

a processor;

a file accessing element, controlled by a controlling operation, said file accessing part controlling files in the computer in a way that prevents access to specified files but allows access to other files unless specific unique information is used; and

wherein said file accessing part controls said access by encrypting said files.

15.   (Original)   A computer as in claim 14, wherein said file accessing element allows access to all read only files, and prevents access to read/write files without said unique information.

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16.   (Original)   A computer as in claim 15, wherein said file accessing element allows access to certain read write files which are designated as being special, and also conducts a security check before allowing said access to said read write files.

17.   Cancelled

18.   (Currently Amended)   A computer as in claim ~~17~~14, wherein said encrypting comprises obtaining personal information from a user, and using said personal information to form encryption and/or decryption operations.

19.   (Original)   A computer as in claim 18, wherein said personal information is a password.

20.   (Original)   A computer as in claim 14, further comprising a file storage part which includes removable memory, and wherein unencrypted read/write access is allowed to said removable memory.

21.   (Original)   A computer as in claim 14, wherein said file accessing element is part of an operating system.

22.   (Previously Presented)   A method comprising:
identifying a user using unique information;

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using an operating system associated program of a computer to designate a first

plurality of files in a computer, as being associated with said user and to encrypt said

first plurality of files using an encryption system that includes said unique information;

responsive to said identifying, using said operating system associated program in

said computer to allow said user to make any changes to any of said first plurality of

files using said encryption system associated with said user and to prevent reading

contents of said first plurality of read/write files when said user is not identified;

allowing other unencrypted files on said system to be read when said user is not

identified, but preventing writing to said other unencrypted files; and

establishing special files on said system which are unencrypted but which can be

written to and read by the system only after a specified security operation.

23.   (Original)   A method, comprising:

obtaining a unique code from a user of the computer system;

determining specified files on the computer system which qualify for a specified

security aspect; and

encrypting all other files other then said specified files on said computer system,

using said unique code.

24.   (Original)   A method as in claim 23, wherein said unique code is a

password.

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25.   (Original)   A method as in claim 23, wherein said unique code is a code from a smart card.

26.   (Original)   A method as in claim 23, wherein said unique code is a code from a biometric.

27.   (Original)   A method as in claim 23, wherein said unique code is a code from a digital certificate.